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DISPATCH NO. WSSA-662

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TO: Chief, Foreign Branch W. DATE: 5 September 1948
FROM: C
SUBJECT: GENERAL Letter of Transmittal
SPECIAL Notes from Lithuanian Political Conference
at Baden Baden, Germany

ITEM

1. We are forwarding herewith two copies in rough draft form of a report furnished by Tilestone. This report covers a conference held at Baden Baden, Germany, for the purpose of creating a better understanding and working arrangement between the Lithuanian political personalities abroad and the representatives of the underground abroad.
2. We have no information on this conference other than is available in the attached report. It is being forwarded primarily to set forth the personalities participating in the conference.
3. Should any specific questions regarding this conference be of interest, we could no doubt procure any details from Tilestone.

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Summary of the conference between leading Lithuanian political personalities abroad and the members of the Lithuanian underground movement.

A conference was held on July 7-9 1948 in Baden-Baden, Germany between leading Lithuanian political personalities abroad and the members of the Lithuanian underground movement, regarding the progress of the latter in enemy-occupied country.

The political movement at the conference was represented by:

1. Professor Mykolas KRUPAVICIUS, leader of the Lithuanian Christian-Democratic Party and chairman of the Supreme Committee of Lithuanian Liberation, leading Lithuanian political body abroad.
2. Mr. Vaclovas SIDZIKAUSKAS, leader of the Lithuanian Peasant Party and chairman of the Executive Committee of the S.C. of L.L.
3. Professor Juozas KAMINSKAS, leader of the Lithuanian Social-Democratic Party and deputy-chairman of the Executive Council.
4. Professor Juozas BRAZAITIS, leader of the Young Christian Democratic Movement and Director General of the Lithuanian Information Service Abroad.

The Lithuanian Underground Movement was represented by:

1. Mr. Jonas DEKSNYS, the representative of the Lithuanian Underground Movement Abroad, member of the Supreme Committee of Lithuanian Restoration, the supreme legislative organ of the Lithuanian Resistance Movement, and member of the presidium of the Joint Lithuanian Democratic Resistance Movement, chief executive body of the Lithuanian Resistance Movement.
2. Mr. SKRAJUNAS, special liaison-man of the presidium of the J.L.D.R.M.

The conference was opened by Professor M. KRUPAVICIUS. Mr. KAMINSKAS, by virtue of seniority, was appointed chairman of the conference. Professor J. BRAZAITIS and Mr. DEKSNYS, who attended the conference as guest from Stockholm, were called up to the secretariat.

The agenda was as follows:

1. Clearing up the mandates matter
2. Internal information
3. The problem of coordinating leadership of Lithuanian Liberation
4. Future plans

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1. The Mandate

It was agreed that the conference was to be fully represented by authorized representatives of both the Lithuanian political movement abroad and the Lithuanian underground movement.

All agreements reached at the conference must be presented to referendum to both parties concerned.

II Internal Information

The following conclusions were arrived at after the reading of the reports by Mr. J. DEKSNYS and Mr. SIDZIKUSKAS:

1. Strong passive and armed resistance against the enemy continues in the occupied countries.
2. The resistance movement receives the moral and practical support of no less than 90% of the whole population.
3. The Lithuanian Resistance Movement is well centralized. It is controlled by the presidium of JDLRM (in Lithuania, it is the BDP).
4. The principal task of the Lithuanian Resistance meanwhile is to conserve the moral, physical and economical power of the nation.

Further conclusions were made:

1. The Communist occupation engenders great loss to the Lithuanians.
2. The time factor does not favor the Lithuanians.
3. Of a certainty there exists high resolve, national unity, and a strong pro-Western feeling.

In his speech, Mr. M. KRUPAVICIUS reviewed the activities of the SC of LL and its executive council and its successful achievement of political unity among all Lithuanians abroad; its cooperation with the Lithuanian diplomatic representatives, particularly those in the U.S., Great Britain and the Vatican, as well as those Lithuanians in the United States who are acting through the American Lithuanian council. Mr. K. proposed that SCLL lead the fight for Lithuanian liberation abroad; that it was most important that the afore mentioned organ be authorized to act abroad.

Mr. DEKSNYS agreed in principle re the necessity of united leadership. The resistance movement might recognize political organs abroad but would retain the right to reorganize all organs of the free Lithuanian State when the time arrived.

Apropos of the world situation, Mr. SIDZIKUSKAS made the following observations re Lithuania's role:

-2-
SECRET

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1. The first objective had been to discredit the Lithuanian annexation and prevent its recognition by the Western Democracies. This is felt to have been successfully achieved.
2. Secondly, we must attempt to obtain recognition of the Lithuanian Government-in-exile.
3. In the tense situation of the world, we must be prepared to work actively and with a singleness of purpose, both at home and abroad, for the liberation of our nation.

The chairman asked Mr. Deksnys and Mr. Skrajunas for their views on the world situation as seen from the Lithuanian point of view. There is a strong leaning towards the western powers. In the country the oppressed people naturally hope for quick and radical changes. However, the resistance leaders endeavor to prepare the nation for longer occupation, but at the same time keep them in readiness for all emergencies.

III/Political Union of Lithuanian Liberation Leaders.

Messrs. SIDZIKAUSSAKS, KAIMINSKAS, KRUPAVICIOUS and DEKSNYS. all spoke.

Mr. Sidzikauskas:

1. There must be only one supreme organ of the Lithuanian liberation.
2. During the Communist occupation it is better that such an organ function abroad.
3. Within the occupied country, the leading organ of the resistance movement should assume leadership.
4. The resistance and political organs abroad must not act under the same names.
5. The possibility of reconstituting the basic fundamentals of the resistance movement is theoretical.

Mr. Kaminskas.

1. The occupied country itself is and will continue to be the center of activity for freedom movements. Our activities abroad are only of auxiliary significance. Politically and morally the nation occupied and fighting for its freedom has the first right; therefore it is necessary to recognise the right of the resistance to build whatever state institutions required. (VLIK).
2. To the SOLL, which comprises all Lithuanian democratic parties, belongs political leadership.
3. Contact between the leaders of the resistance and political organs abroad should be made through the representative of the resistance abroad.

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Mr. Krupavicius

Agreed in principle with Sismanskas but wanted to hear the opinion of Deksnys.

Mr. Deksnys:

1. Morally and politically the battle for freedom is the prerogative of the resistance organizations in the occupied country. He does not agree with Mr. Sismanskas that leadership belongs to the emigrant organizations or political bodies. Our freedom depends not on diplomatic activities but on our determination to retain the national spirit in the populace of the occupied country itself.

2. Political leadership abroad could be recognized by the SOLL and its executive council or probable government-in-exile.

3. Contact between political organs abroad and the resistance organizations in the occupied country must be made through a representative of the resistance, acting independently.

4. The chairman of the conference proposed that Messrs Sismanskas and Deksnys draft the text of the agreement. It was decided that Mr. Deksnys would sign the agreement in his capacity as member of the supreme committee of Lithuanian Restoration (higher legislative resistance institution) and also as a member of the presidium of the JDLR.

The agreement:

1. The fight for the free Lithuanian state be led:

a) in the country - by the leading resistance organs. If it permits, the resistance organizations have the right to restore Lithuanian State constitutional institutions. The fight for freedom originates with the resistance organizations.

b) Abroad by SOLL and its executive council.

2. Should the need arise to set up a government in exile, an assembly of the resistance through its representative abroad must be convened. The resistance has the right to be represented in the government-in-exile.

3. The cooperation between SOLL and its executive council /pro-government-in-exile/ on the one hand and the occupied occur on the other, will be carried on through the representative of the Lithuanian underground, who in turn is appointed by the leading resistance organizations. The representative has full freedom to act abroad in the field of resistance but is responsible and subordinate to resistance leaders.

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